



### Biographical Information:

Artists have been selected based upon their involvement in the film's production and their artistic and ethnic contributions to telling the multi-faceted Homestead story.

**John E. Carter:** Carter is an expert on the photography of Solomon Butcher. His book, *Solomon D. Butcher: Photographing the American Dream* (1985, University of Nebraska Press) provides context of the photographic record of the settling of the Great Plains and western Nebraska. Carter is the curator of photographs at the Nebraska Historical Society.

**Matt Jones:** Jones was interviewed for *Land of Dreams: Homesteading America*. He is also featured in the interactive exhibits at the Heritage Center at Homestead National Monument of America. He has participated in several previous special events at Homestead including the Heartland Storytelling Festival. Mr. Jones is an Otoe tribe member. As a storyteller he will share traditional tribal stories as well as provide context and perspective on the Native America experience as it relates to the Homestead Act of 1862. Jones is a recently retired professor from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

**Atz Kilcher:** Kilcher grew-up on a homestead in Alaska. He shares his experiences of growing up on a homestead through story and song. His family is the only known family to document their homesteading experience in color film. This rare footage is set to music Kilcher wrote to tell the Homesteading story. His daughter, pop-singer Jewel, was interviewed for the film as well as Mr. Kilcher's sisters. Kilcher participated in the Dedication event of the Heritage Center in May, 2007.

**Jan Mexa:** Meza is a native of Pickrell, Nebraska. She attended Beatrice high School, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, and has a graduate degree from the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston. She has written a piano piece that will be used in *Land of Dreams: Homesteading America*. She will perform this piece in person at the film premiere.